

***Secures \$4.25 million in project funding for district***

Washington, DC – Rep. Charlie Wilson (OH-6) voted to support our troops by providing them with the weapons and equipment they need and keeping the promises we made to them and their families. The Defense Appropriations Act makes critical investments in the health, well-being and readiness of our armed forces. In addition, Wilson worked with several other Members of Congress to secure \$4.25 million in earmarks that will benefit the Sixth Congressional District of Ohio.

The following local projects will be funded by the Defense Appropriations Act if the bill is passed by the Senate and signed by the President: Advanced Aerospace Heat Exchangers at Ohio University at \$750,000, Distributed Power from Wastewater at \$2.5 million, and Hybrid Bearing at \$1 million.

“The Advanced Aerospace Heat Exchangers will improve our national security,” Wilson said. “The carbon foam based exchangers developed through this project are a light-weight alternative that will help numerous military weapons systems with heat management issues. In the end, I can see this type of research ultimately leading to the creation of a highly trained and well compensated future Ohio work force.”

“In addition to the Heat Exchangers at OU, I worked with Rep. Zack Space (OH-18) to secure funding for a very exciting energy project at OU called the Distributed Power from Wastewater,” Wilson said. “This project will provide environmental and national security benefits by creating technology that will make military base camps more self-sufficient and more energy efficient. The new technology could reduce ammonia emissions by up to 37% and reduce CO2 emissions by at least 1%. In addition, by using human wastewater as fuel, base camps will have to transport less fuel which makes them more mobile, and would reduce our reliance on imported sources of energy through the production of bio-based renewable energy. This project will significantly boost an economically distressed region of Ohio as new manufacturing plants that will produce this technology are projected to provide at least 100 new jobs within the next four years.”

“Finally, I was pleased to work with Rep. Heath Shuler (NC-11) and Rep. Howard Coble (NC-6), to secure funding for the Hybrid Bearing project,” Wilson said. “The current standard aerospace bearings are not adequate for the demands of the Joint Strike Fighter engine or for many existing engines. This project would create an improved bearing that is tough, corrosion resistant and able to tolerate the high speeds and temperatures of expanding mission requirements. Most importantly, for our district, this project will require products from suppliers based in Marietta and Steubenville.”

“In addition to bringing good projects home, this bill is about keeping promises to our troops,”

Wilson said. "We pledged that in exchange for service to their country, our troops, veterans and their families would have the best possible care. This bill does that."

The Defense Appropriations Act includes a 3.4% pay raise for our military, the best medical care and strong support for military family advocacy programs. It also continues efforts to end the practice of "stop loss" and pays our troops an additional \$500 for every month their term of service is involuntarily extended by that practice.

To protect our troops on the battlefield and make sure that our soldiers are well-prepared for any challenge that comes their way, this legislation provides our military with first class equipment. It gives them the weapons they need to fight the wars of today and prepare for the battles of tomorrow. For the first time since the beginning of operations in Iraq, this bill also budgets for Overseas Deployment and other activities in Iraq and Afghanistan for the upcoming fiscal year.

This legislation also makes a commitment to fiscal responsibility by reigning in outsourcing and putting Defense personnel, not contractors, in charge of critical department functions. At the same time, it will allow the Inspector General to hire additional investigators to ensure proper oversight of Department of Defense acquisition and contracting.

The House passed this appropriations bill on time and under budget.